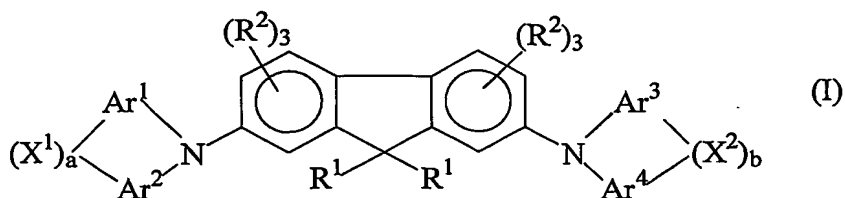


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula:



wherein  $R^1$  is independently in each occurrence i) a  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl group, ii) a  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl group wherein one or more carbons are substituted by one or more heteroatoms selected from S, N, O, P, B or Si atoms, or iii) a halogenated derivative of iii) or iv), with the proviso that in at least one occurrence,  $R^1$  is crosslinkable group;

$R^2$  is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, halogen,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxy,  $C_{1-20}$  thioether,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbylcarbonyloxy, di( $C_{1-20}$ hydrocarbyl)amino, or cyano;

$Ar^1$ ,  $Ar^2$ ,  $Ar^3$  and  $Ar^4$  are independently in each occurrence  $C_{6-20}$  aromatic groups, optionally containing one or more S, N, O, P, B or Si heteroatoms, or a halo-,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl-, di( $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl)amino-,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxy-, tri( $C_{1-10}$  hydrocarbyl)silyl-, or tri( $C_{1-10}$  hydrocarbyl)siloxy- substituted derivative thereof;

a and b independently in each occurrence are 0 or 1; and

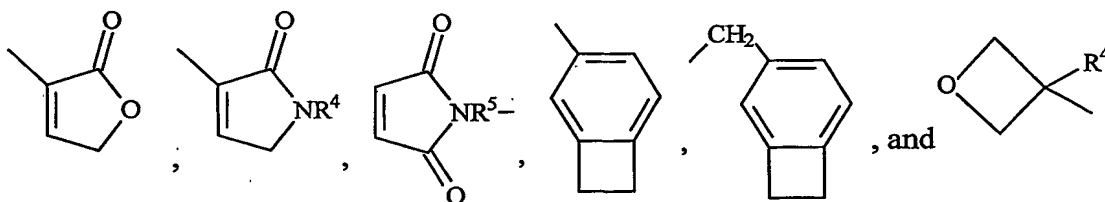
$X^1$  and  $X^2$  independently in each occurrence are a covalent bond, O, S,  $SO_2$ ,  $CH_2$ ,  $C(R^3)_2$  or  $NR^3$ , wherein  $R^3$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_{1-22}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-22}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_{6-24}$  aryl, and  $C_{7-24}$  aralkyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  independently each occurrence is selected from the group consisting of  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{3-40}$  hydrocarbyl containing one or more S, N, O, P, or Si heteroatoms, and the foregoing  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl or  $C_{3-40}$  heteroatom containing groups containing a crosslinkable group, with the proviso that in at least one occurrence,  $R^1$  comprises crosslinkable group.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  in at least one occurrence contains a double bond, a triple bond, a precursor capable of in situ formation of a double bond, or a heterocyclic, addition polymerizable group.

4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  in at least one occurrence is selected from the group consisting of:

- 5  
 $-(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-O(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-O(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,  
 $-(R^5)_m-C(O)(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-C(O)(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-OC(O)(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  
 $-(R^5)_m-OC(O)(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-COO(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-COO(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,  
 $-(R^5)_m-O(CO)O(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$ ,  $-(R^5)_m-O(CO)O(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$ ,



where

- 10  
 $R^4$  is hydrogen, halogen,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  halohydrocarbyl, or  $C_{1-20}$  halocarbyl;  
 $R^5$  is  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbylene,  $C_{1-20}$  halohydrocarbylene, or  $C_{1-20}$  halocarbylene; and  
 $m$  is 0 or 1.

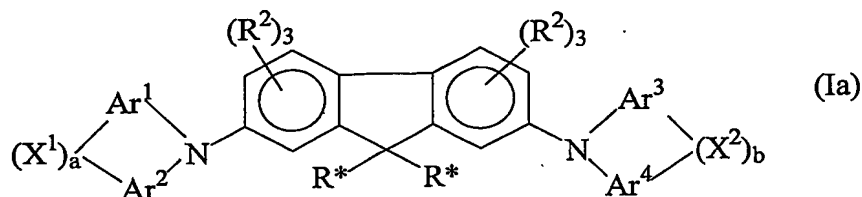
5. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  is selected from the group consisting of: vinyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkylacrylate, vinylphenyl, vinylphenoxy, maleimido, vinylbenzyl,  
 15 vinylbenzyloxy, oxetanyl, 2-propynyl, trifluoroethenyl, 1-benzo-3,4-cyclobutane, and methyl-1-benzo-3,4-cyclobutane.

6. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^2$  independently each occurrence is hydrogen,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  halohydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  halocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxy,  $C_{1-20}$   
 20 hydrocarbylthio,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbonyloxy,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxycarbonyl,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl-carbonyloxy, or cyano.

7. A compound according to claim 6 wherein  $R^2$  each occurrence is hydrogen.

- 25 8. A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $Ar^1$ ,  $Ar^2$ ,  $Ar^3$  and  $Ar^4$  are phenyl or phenylene,  $X^1$  and  $X^2$  are O or S, and  $a$  and  $b$  are 0 or 1.

9. An oligomer or polymer having one or more repeating groups of the formula:



wherein  $R^*$  is independently in each occurrence i) a  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl group, iii) a  $C_{1-40}$  hydrocarbyl group wherein one or more carbons are substituted by one or more heteroatoms selected from S, N, O, P, B or Si atoms, or iii) a halogenated derivative of i) or ii), with the proviso that in at least one occurrence,  $R^*$  is a divalent linking group formed by crosslinking of a crosslinkable group selected from i), ii) or iii) through which the repeating groups are joined;

$R^2$  is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, halogen,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxy,  $C_{1-20}$  thioether,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbylcarbonyloxy, di( $C_{1-20}$ hydrocarbyl)amino, or cyano;

$Ar^1$ ,  $Ar^2$ ,  $Ar^3$  and  $Ar^4$  are independently in each occurrence  $C_{6-20}$  aromatic groups, optionally containing one or more S, N, O, P, B or Si heteroatoms, halo-,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl-, di( $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl)amino-,  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyloxy-, tri( $C_{1-10}$  hydrocarbyl)silyl-, or tri( $C_{1-10}$  hydrocarbyl)siloxy- substituted derivatives thereof, or divalent derivatives of the foregoing;

a and b independently in each occurrence are 0 or 1; and

$X^1$  and  $X^2$  independently in each occurrence are a covalent bond, O, S,  $SO_2$ ,  $CH_2$ ,  $C(R^3)_2$  or  $NR^3$ , wherein  $R^3$  is selected from the group consisting of  $C_{1-22}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-22}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_{6-24}$  aryl, and  $C_{7-24}$  aralkyl.

10. A composition comprising an oligomer or polymer according to claim 9.

11. A process for preparing oligomers or polymers comprising heating a composition according to claim 1 under reaction conditions sufficient to form an oligomer or polymer having one or more groups according to claim 9.

12. A composition according to claim 9 in the form of a film.

13. An electronic device comprising one or more layers of polymer films, at least one of which comprises a film according to claim 12.

14. An electronic device according to claim 13 which is an electroluminescent device.